

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 06180 102130Z

60

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EA-11 ISO-00 L-03 AGR-20 COME-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /094 W

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R 101941Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1191

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LA PAZ 6180

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD BL

SUBJ: BOLIVIAN COTTON

REFS: (A) LA PAZ 6065; (B) LA PAZ 6179 (C) STATE 200108.

1. RENE ROJAS, PROMINENT LA PAZ LAWYER RETAINED BY RALLI, CALLED ON ECONOFF OCTOBER 10 TO SHOW TELEX RECEIVED FROM RALLI ASKING ROJAS TO ARRANGE LEGAL DEFENSE AGAINST COURT ACTION REFERRED TO BY MININD/COM AND MINFON NOTE (SEE REFTELS). ROJAS SAID IF ACTION BEING BROUGHT IN SANTA CRUZ, PROPER SITE AS CONTRACTS SIGNED THERE, WAS NO CHANCE OF GETTING OBJECTIVE HEARING AND VERY LITTLE CHANCE OF FINDING COURAGEOUS SANTA CRUZ LAWYER TO REPRESENT COOK AND RALLI. ECONOFF COULD ONLY RESPOND THAT HE HAD UNDERSTOOD FROM MININD/COM THAT ACTION BEING BROUGHT IN LA PAZ BUT DID NOT KNOW WHERE AS MINISTER HAD REFERRED ECONOFF TO RENE ZALLES, ADEPA LAWYER, FOR FURTHER INFORMATION. ROJAS SAID HE WOULD TRY DETERMINE BY OTHER MEANS WHERE COURT ACTION BEING TAKEN. ROJAS CONSIDERS ZALLES TO BE UNSAVORY CHARACTER.

2. BANK OF AMERICA ACTING MANAGER VIVADO STATED ON BASIS OPINION BANK OF AMERICA LAWYERS LEGAL DEFENSE IN BOLIVIA BY RALLI AND COOK EXTREMELY PROBLEMATIC AS THEY DO NOT HAVE LEGALLY ESTABLISHED FIRM HERE AND, THEREFORE, TECHNICALLY CANNOT BE REPRESENTED BEFORE BOLIVIAN COURT. ALSO STATED CONTRACTS

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PAGE 02 LA PAZ 06180 102130Z

HAD NOT BEEN REGISTERED AND STAMP TAX HAD NOT BEEN PAID, ADDING

FURTHER TECHNICAL DEFECTS TO POSSIBLE DEFECT CITED BY ADEPA
THAT LEDESMA (COOK REP) DID NOT HAVE POWER OF ATTORNEY TO SIGN
CONTRACTS.

3. VIVADO SAID WOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO DETERMINE WHETHER 18,000
BALES MENTIONED REF C OF BOLIVIAN ORIGIN AND BELONG TO COOK.
STEDMAN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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